

Michigan Senior Mobility and Safety Action Plan Accomplishments May 2016

Promote and sponsor research in Michigan on senior mobility issues

- Starting with Fiscal Year 2014, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will fund research on evaluating the engineering enhancements made based on the 2001 Highway Design Handbook for Older Drivers and Pedestrians and the supplemental Guidelines and Recommendations to Accommodate Older Drivers and Pedestrians. MDOT is working on year two of the project during 2015.

Lead Agency: MDOT

Contact: Safety Programs

Accomplishment: This project has been completed. Please refer to the following link for more information: http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/RC1636_501939_7.pdf. MDOT has been notified that this research project was selected as one of the top 16 projects in the nation in 2015 by the AASHTO Research Advisory Committee, also referred to as the Sweet 16.

- Starting FY 2016 MDOT will fund research on evaluating Michigan older adult crashes with the existing roadway features.

Lead Agency: MDOT

Contact: Safety Programs

Status: This project is currently underway.

- Investigate alternative transportation needs and issues, particularly gaps between services needed and services provided within Michigan.

Lead Agency: MDOT, Passenger Transportation

Contact: AAA-1B

Accomplishment: A statewide group of mobility managers has organized and is meeting monthly.

Plan for an aging mobility and transportation dependent population

- All agencies of the SMWG will identify applicable agencies and invite the agencies to be part of the work group to further enhance the housing and land use issues within Michigan.

Lead Agency: SMWG

Contact: All Participants

Accomplishment: This is an ongoing activity. New members added in the last year include:

Sheriff Kim Cole, Mason County

Cynthia LaBelle, AARP Driver Safety State Coordinator

Nick Norcross, Medicaid, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Laura Rowen, Injury Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services

Dawn Kepler, Elder Law of Michigan

- The SMWG and partner agencies will continue to work on educating state and local governments on the importance of creating communities that are senior friendly.

Lead Agency: SMWG

Contact: All Participants

Accomplishment: AARP is working with 4 communities – Lansing, Grand Rapids, Highland Park and Auburn Hills who are officially part of the Age-Friendly Communities Program. The state associate director has spoken/presented to many other cities who are interested but not at the point of making the commitment yet. The program focuses on what it means to be Age-Friendly and why we are talking about it, etc.

- In 2014 the Aging Road User Interstate Collaboration Group was formed. Quarterly meetings are held where state traffic safety professionals share tips, materials and ideas related to older driver safety. MDOT, MDOS, and OHSP will continue to participate.

Lead Agency: MDOT, MDOS, OHSP

Contact: Safety Programs/Traffic Safety Division/Planning and Administration.

Accomplishment: The Michigan Department of Transportation, Michigan Department of State, and the Office of Highway Safety Planning continue to regularly participate in the Aging Road User Interstate Collaboration Group. The group itself continues to grow as more state traffic safety professionals learn about the sharing of best practices in promoting senior mobility and safety. Topics such as lessons learned in CarFit events to increase exposure, methods of educating the medical community, various pilot projects for driver screening and assessment, and others have been discussed.

<p>Promote the design and operation of Michigan roadways with features that better accommodate the special needs of older drivers and pedestrians</p>

- MDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will continue to offer power point presentations to local and statewide audiences on engineering enhancements showing the benefits for the senior driver and pedestrian.

Lead Agency: MDOT and FHWA

Contact: Safety Programs

Status: This activity is continuing. A presentation was given about engineering enhancements in Michigan by MDOT at Lifesavers in April on.

<p>Develop and/or enhance programs to identify older drivers at increased risk of crashes and take appropriate action</p>

- The Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) will explore the development of tip cards for law enforcement officers with information on medically at-risk drivers and step-by-step instructions to make referrals to the licensing authority.

Lead Agency: OHSP

Contact: Planning and Administration

Status: A subcommittee was formed and decision was made to adopt the DOSCI assessment tool. Committee members are in the process of editing the tool and adding Michigan resources. OHSP drafted a grant management plan in order to provide funding for this activity.

- OHSP, along with MSP, will seek to provide and coordinate Law Enforcement training regarding Aging Drivers and obtain Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) certification for program completion in an effort to influence officer participation.

Lead Agency: OHSP, MSP

Contact: Planning and Administration/Traffic Services

Status: *Plans to provide this training were developed but unfortunately execution of the plan did not occur due to unforeseen issues. Initial talks are underway to obtain the NHTSA online training digitally and provide this training through MI TRAIN at the Michigan State Police.*

- Encourage Michigan law enforcement officers to view the Video Toolkit on Medical Conditions in Older Drivers videos from the National Highway Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Lead Agency: OHSP, MSP

Contact: Planning and Administration/ Traffic Services

Status: *Promotion of this activity will occur through the Safe Drivers Smart Options website under the law enforcement section.*

- OHSP will continue to coordinate one to two sessions at the Michigan Traffic Safety Summit on Older Driver Safety.

Lead Agency: OHSP

Contact: Planning and Administration

Accomplishment: *The 2015 Summit included a workshop on “Strategies and Resources for Aging Drivers.” The workshop featured a presentation by Mason County’s Sheriff on a successful project to reduce fatalities in the city of Ludington. UMTRI researchers presented new vehicle designs, when to stop driving, and how to bridge the special needs of caregivers and the driver. The 2016 Summit included a workshop on “Resources for Senior Drivers.” Topics included travel training, mobility management, and Carfit.*

- Develop recommendations on how the *Driver Fitness Medical Guidelines* developed by NHTSA should be used in assessing drivers.

Lead Agency: MDOS

Contact: Traffic Safety Division

Status: *The Michigan Department of State has placed this activity on its 2016 Traffic Safety Agenda. The Traffic Safety Division’s Driver Assessment Section intends to lead the effort and prepare recommendations for MDOS management.*

- As part of the Older Driver Education and Safe Mobility Planning Strategy Project, a Michigan aging driver Web site is being developed.

Lead Agencies: MDOT, MDOS

Contact: Transportation Planning/Traffic Safety Division

Accomplishment: *The Safe Drivers Smart Options web site was launched on December 7, 2015. It brings together the best identified resources related to senior mobility for the target audiences of aging drivers, family and caregivers, and professionals working with them. The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) communications lead the initial development of the site with primary input on design and content from the MDOT, the Michigan Department of State (MDOS), the Office of Highway Safety Planning, and the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI). The MDOS assumed responsibility for the site in January 2016. In January and February 2016, the site saw 2,109 and 2,474 unique visitors respectively.*

- Seek opportunities for providing older driver safety training to medical professionals.

Lead Agency: OHSP

Contact: Planning and Administration

Accomplishment: Medical professionals were identified as an important audience for the Safe Drivers Smart Options web site. Effective resources were identified and included in a dedicated section of the site as a way to connect the medical professional with the best resources available.

“Michigan’s Guide to Aging Drivers and Their Families” guidebook was promoted and distributed to injury prevention coordinators, hospital CME coordinators, geriatric assessment centers, and the Michigan Medical Association to distribute at conferences.

- An Older Driver Safety presentation is available for use in community outreach, specifically at senior centers, and delivered by Michigan State Police (MSP) Community Service Troopers.

Lead Agency: MS, OHSP

Contact: Traffic Services/Planning and Administration

Accomplishment: It is estimated that nearly 30 driver safety presentations were delivered by troopers to senior citizen groups throughout the state.

- The MDOT, MDOS, AAA, and OHSP collaborated to develop *Michigan’s Guide for Aging Drivers and Their Families*, a printed older driver safety guidebook intended for aging drivers, their families, law enforcement and the medical community. It is distributed via the Michigan Department of State to, senior centers, the medical community, and others. The booklet was completed in the spring of 2014, and outreach to organizations that might help promote is ongoing. Booklets can be ordered, at no cost, at Michigan.gov/agingdriver.

Lead Agency: MDOT, MDOS, AAA, OHSP

Contact: Safety Programs/Traffic Safety Division/Public Affairs/Planning and Administration

Accomplishment: In 20015, through a grant funded by the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning, the Michigan Department of State distributed approximately 40,600 guides to a range of organizations that support the safe mobility of aging individuals. Organizations included Michigan libraries, Secretary of State Offices, AAA, AARP, Hospitals, law enforcement, individual customers, and many others. All agencies continue to promote the guidebook.

- Continue to attend events, meetings, conferences, etc. and present and/or distribute information related to aging driver issues and programs.

Lead Agency: MDOS

Contact: Traffic Safety Division

Accomplishment: The Michigan Department of State actively seeks events to participate in and/or have an exhibit that focuses on senior mobility safety and aging drivers. Staff has participated in senior fairs, delivered presentations with regard to the responsibilities of the Department and the driver referral and reexamination processes.

Encourage senior-friendly transportation options

- CarFit is a free, interactive and educational program developed by AAA, AARP, and AOTA that teaches older adults how to make their personal vehicle “fit” them to increase safety and mobility when they are driving on the roads. Through representation on the Senior Mobility Work Group,

the Michigan Trauma Coalition is partnering with the Michigan OHSP, MDOT, MDOS, and AARP to revitalize this program for older adults throughout the state. MTC injury prevention members have expressed a strong interest in the training required for participating in and offering the CarFit program in their communities throughout the state of Michigan. A 2-day training event is scheduled for all interested members in August 2015. Attendees of this training will be both "Technician" and "Event Coordinator" trained, which means that they will be able to return to their cities and health care facilities, train additional volunteers, who in turn, can participate in Car Fit events for community members to learn these new and safer practices when in their vehicles, on the road.

Lead Agency: Michigan Trauma Coalition (MTC), AARP

Contact: Beaumont Injury Prevention Coord/Associate Director and Driver Safety Coord.

Accomplishment: In August 2015, a 2-day training event took place at Safety City USA/Beaumont Health, where 32 CarFit Event Coordinators/Technicians were trained representing healthcare and State agencies from throughout Michigan. Attendees of this training can now return to their cities and health care facilities, train additional volunteers, who in turn, can participate in CarFit events for community members to learn these new and safer practices when in their vehicles, on the road.

In 2015, there were 159 individuals who participated in Car-Fit events hosted by various groups.

Through support from the state AARP office, three Lansing area events are planned for the spring and summer of 2016.

Through a grant from OHSP, an Event Coordinator and Technician training is being planned in the Upper Peninsula in 2016.

- American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) will continue to provide the *Driver Safety Program*.

Lead Agency: AARP

Contact: Driver Safety Coordinator

Accomplishment: In 2015 in Michigan there were a total of 4,075 participants who took the AARP Driver Safety course - SMART Driver. Of that total, there were 1,980 who took the 8 hour course on-line and the remaining 2,095 attended one of the 163 classroom courses (also 8 hours) in 38 of the 83 counties in the state.

- Continue to identify self-help resources available to help drivers maintain a driver's license and promote safety.

Lead Agency: SMWG

Contact: All Participants

Accomplishment: Self-help and other similar traffic safety resources for aging drivers were included in several sections of the Safe Drivers Smart Options web site. As additional resources are identified, they will be recommended for addition to the site.

Provide recommendations related to senior mobility and safety legislation

- Support efforts to grow Regional Transit Authority in Southeast Michigan. MDOT/Office of Passenger Transportation assists RTA and the RTA Citizen's Advisory Council activities.

Lead Agency: MDOT and AAA1-B

Contact: Office of Passenger Transportation/Mobility Manager

Accomplishment: AAA 1-B's CEO is on the Citizen's Advisory Council (CAC), Mobility Project Manager is on Senior and ADA subcommittee. AAA 1-B is member of A Coalition for Transit. RTA revealed Master Plan on May 31, 2016. Legislation to fund the RTA will be on the November 8, 2016 ballot.

MDOT continues to work with RTA, regularly attends meetings and provides guidance as needed.

- Continue supporting *Complete Streets* Legislation. MDOT/Office of Passenger Transportation continues to support and provide guidance on Complete Streets.

Lead Agency: MDOT and AARP

Contact: Office of Passenger Transportation/Mobility Manager

Accomplishment: *The Complete Streets Advisory Council completed its assignment per the legislation and was sunset in April of this year. MDOT continues to work on implementation.*